

REMARKS

Claims

Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10-13 and 20-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101;

Claims 4, 6, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112;

Claims 1-21, 25, and 43-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102;

Claims 22-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

In response, Applicants have amended Claims 1-3, 7-10, 13-15, 17-20, 22-25, and 43.

Claims 5-6, 11-12, 16, 21, 33, 34, 46-47, 49, and 56-57 have been cancelled.

Claims 26-32, 35-42, 53-55 and 58-60 have been withdrawn.

All amendments are fully supported by original disclosure, no new matter has been introduced.

Accordingly, Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13-15, 17-20, 22-25, 43-45, 48, and 50-52 remain pending, and reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of these amendments and the following remarks.

101 Rejections

In the subject action, claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10-13 and 20-25 stand rejected as being directed towards non-statutory subject matter and having no connection to the technological art. Further rejections were premised upon the assertion that the claims do not produce a useful, concrete and tangible result. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10-13 and 20-25 have been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejections.

Rejections Under 35 §112, second paragraph

Claims 4, 6 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph.

With respect to claim 4, as described in the specification, "billing data" may be of a variety of types, including but not limited to "credit card identifiers", "debit card identifiers", and so forth. Claim 4 particularizes the "billing data" to "credit card identifiers". Accordingly, claim 4 is definite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of claim 6 has been rendered moot by its cancellation.

With respect to claim 9, Applicant submits antecedent is provided by claim 1. Withdrawal of rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-21, 25, and 43-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,636,833 to Flitcroft, et al. ("Flitcroft"). In response, Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 43 to more clearly distinguish the invention over Flitcroft.

Amended claim 1 now clearly requires a "billing service", itself not a "billing data issuing source", obtaining "billing data" from "billing data issuing sources", and provide them for exclusively usage with corresponding web sites. Flitcroft failed to teach and anticipate these limitations. Flitcroft merely teaches the issuance of credit card numbers, by credit card issuers, with limitations on their usage. Accordingly, Claim 1 is patentable over Flitcroft.

Claim 43 contains in substance similar limitations as those described for Claim 1 and is therefore patentable over Flitcroft for at least the reasons previously presented.

Claims 2-4, 7-10, 13-15, 17-20, 25, 44-45, 48, and 50-52 depend either from Claim 1 or Claim 43, incorporating its limitations. Therefore for at least the same reasons, Claims 2-4, 7-10, 13-15, 17-20, 25, 44-45, 48, and 50-52 are patentable over Flitcroft.

Rejection to Claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 16, 21, and 46-47 have been rendered moot by their cancellation.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 22-24 are rejected under sec 103(a) as being obvious in view of Flitcroft. As discussed above, Claim 1 is patentable over Flitcroft. Claims 22-24 depend from Claim 1, incorporating its limitations. Therefore for at least the same reasons, Claims 22-24 are patentable over Flitcroft.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that elected claims 1-4, 7-10, 13-15, 16-20, 22-25, 43-45, 48, and 50-52 are in condition for allowance.

Early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages of Fees to Deposit
Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt, P.C.

Date:

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Mark C McClure, Reg. No. 53,857

Pacwest Center, Suites 1600-1900
1211 SW Fifth Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: 503-222-9981